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LETTER DATED 7 JANUARY 1993 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

With reference to the letters of the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina dated 29 December 1992 (S/25019) and 30 December 1992 (S/25028) addressed to your predecessor, I have the honour to draw your attention to the following:

The Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in his letters, has, as on previous occasions, put forward unfounded accusations and falsehoods pertaining to the involvement of the forces and aircraft from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The preposterous accusation that, between 23 and 27 December 1992, Serbian and Montenegrin forces carried out 24 combat missions over the region of Srebrenica with fixed-wing aircraft is a gross fabrication. As in previous instances, the sole goal is to condemn the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for its alleged role in the civil war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in which in fact it is not a party, and consequently to provoke foreign military intervention.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia strongly rejects these untrue charges. The armed forces, including the air force, of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia have not been engaged in any activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina ever since their withdrawal from that Republic in May 1992.

As can be unequivocally deduced from the Secretary-General's note verbale of 29 December 1992 (S/24900/Add.7), there have been no violations of the ban on flights over Bosnia and Herzegovina initiated from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including over the Srebrenica region, in the said period. This can be verified by the United Nations observers who have been stationed at airfields in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The absurdity of the claim that 24 combat missions by Serbian and Montenegrin forces were carried out is best exemplified by the information supplied in the said note verbale that, in the period in question, only four unauthorized flights in the airspace of Bosnia and Herzegovina have been reported by the United Nations Protection Force.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIĆ
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.